

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

For the formation of a sound insulating and absorbing cavity (8) within an engine compartment (1), ~~said~~ the engine compartment (1) ~~[[is]]~~ can be partitioned by ~~means of~~ a lightweight engine compartment partitioning layer (7). ~~[[Said]]~~ The partitioning layer (7) can be made of several sections and forms an essentially cohesive surface within the engine compartment (1). ~~In a preferred embodiment of the invention this~~ The partitioning layer (7) ~~consists of~~ can include a carrier layer (12) and a sound absorbent layer (13) and may ~~comprise~~ include first and second water and oil repellent layers (14, 15). The cavity (8) created by this partitioning layer (7) leads to a substantive increase in transmission loss.